From:	Malcolm Slaney
To:	Microsoft ATR
Date:	12/9/01 12:56am
Subject:	Microsoft Settlement

I would like to express my strong disappointment in the published Microsoft antitrust agreement.

Most importantly, the agreement says that Microsoft must share its APIs with organizations that *Microsoft* judges to have viable business models.

The world of software is not entirely driven by for-profit enterprises. Web service (Apache), operating systems (linux), file servers (samba), email routers (sendmail/postfix) and software compilers (gcc) all have very successful non-profit entries.

The way the agreement is written, Microsoft can extend their monopoly by preventing free-software proponents from interacting with their software. This would be bad.

At the very least the agreement should be modified to require Microsoft to publish *all* their software APIs *and* their file formats. This would allow interoperability within the entire software industry and would greatly enhance competition.

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